



Consumer Assistance Program

SMOG CHECK CAP: Clearing California's Air By Capping Consumer Costs

The Smog Check Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) offers three options to help California consumers whose vehicles need Smog Check repairs to bring them into compliance with California clean air standards – Repair Assistance, Vehicle Retirement, and Repair Cost Waiver. These options help clear the air by reducing vehicle emissions and help consumers by capping costs.

Repair Assistance: This option allows qualified motorists to receive up to **\$500** in emissions-related repairs from the state. All participants must take their vehicles to Smog Check repair stations specifically authorized by the state to perform repair assistance services. Motorists may qualify for repair assistance in one of two ways:

Income-Eligible—Motorists whose household income is at or below 185% of the federal poverty guidelines qualify for repair assistance. For example, a family of four whose income does not exceed \$2,629 per month, or \$31,543 per year, would qualify for repair assistance. Qualified consumers must pay the first \$20 towards diagnosis and/or emissions-related repairs before the state makes its contribution of up to **\$500**.

Test-Only Station Referral—Certain vehicles are required to have their Smog Check inspections at stations that perform only tests, and no repairs. This requirement is indicated on the vehicle's DMV registration renewal notice. Motorists whose vehicles fall under this criteria also qualify for repair assistance. Qualified consumers must pay the first \$100 towards diagnosis and/or emissions-related repairs before the state makes its contribution of up to **\$500**. (*Note: Test-Only referrals who qualify should apply for Income-Eligible assistance.*)

Vehicle Retirement: This option is available to motorists who want to voluntarily retire their vehicles to the state rather than repair them. Eligible consumers can receive **\$1,000** in exchange for their vehicles. Vehicles are retired at one of the state's authorized dismantlers.

Repair Cost Waiver: This option is available to motorists who either do not qualify for repair assistance or choose not to retire their vehicles. It allows a vehicle to be registered without passing its Smog Check inspection by providing a temporary (two-year) extension of time to complete all emissions-related repairs. To qualify, at least \$450 in emissions-related repairs must be made to the vehicle at a licensed Smog Check station. The waiver may only be used once by motorists during their ownership of the vehicle.

Exceptions: Although there may be other vehicle restrictions that apply for each Smog Check CAP option, none of the options are available if the vehicle has missing, modified, or disconnected emission control equipment; is not fully operational; is being initially registered in the state; or is being sold (change of ownership).

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on any of our
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options, call
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